This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Withdrawn) A method for monitoring septic shock conditions in an animal wherein the said method comprises:

a) injecting intraperitoneally the bacterial lipopolysaccharide (LPS) solution to an animal to induce septic shock,

b) administering orally a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin prior to and after the injection of LPS,

c) observing every two to three hours reduction in severity of septic shock symptoms, the symptoms selected from shivering, lethargy, fever, watery eyes, diarrhea and monitoring the survival of an animal after 8 hours of administering LPS injection, and

d) further probing the reduction in neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to the underlying tissue by staining and microscopic examination for checking the extent of inflammation.

3. (Withdrawn) A method claimed in claim 2, wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin ranges from 40 mg/kg to 60 mg/kg body weight.

4. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is administered two to four hours prior to and simultaneous with LPS administration.

5. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is administered at time intervals of 4, 16, 24, 48 and 72 hours after LPS administration.

6. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is administered at time intervals of 3, 6, 9, 24 and 42 hours after LPS administration.

7. (Withdrawn) The method claimed in claim 2, wherein the said curcumin is administered orally as a suspension in pharmacologically acceptable non-toxic organic solvent or oil.

8. (Withdrawn) A process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is optionally administered orally along with an antioxidant preparation.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of systemic lipopolysaccharide exposure ~~LPS-induced septic shock conditions~~ in an animal ~~by preventing lethality and by reducing severity of symptoms, wherein said LPS induced septic shock conditions are controlled by prevention of neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to underlying tissues~~, said method comprising administering a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to said animal at specified time intervals.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for treating pathophysiological reactions to systemic exposure of lipopolysaccharide ~~LPS induced septic shock conditions~~ in an animal wherein the method comprises:

a) administering orally a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to reduce neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to underlying tissues in the animal;

b) observing the animal every two to three hours for manifestations of lipopolysaccharide induced septic shock; ~~and~~

c) probing reduction in neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to the underlying tissue by staining and microscopically examining the extent of inflammation in said underlying tissue[[.]]; and

d) optionally administering additional treatment to the animal.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin ranges from 40mg/kg to 60 mg/kg body weight.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the curcumin is administered orally as a suspension in pharmacologically acceptable non-toxic organic solvent or oil.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is administered with an antioxidant preparation.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling neutrophil infiltration during inflammatory conditions caused by systemic exposure to lipopolysaccharide ~~LPS induced septic shock by~~ comprising administering a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to an animal in need thereof ~~a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin~~.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin ranges from 40mg/kg to 60 mg/kg body weight.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the curcumin is administered as a suspension in pharmacologically acceptable non-toxic solvent or oil.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin is administered with an antioxidant preparation.

18. (New) A method for preventing lethality of lipopolysaccharide induced septic shock, said

method comprising administering a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to said animal at specified time intervals.

19. (New) A method for reducing severity of symptoms of lipopolysaccharide induced septic shock, said method comprising administering a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to said animal at specified time intervals.

20. (New) The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein said specified time intervals occur before, during or after said systemic lipopolysaccharide exposure.

21. (New) The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein said specified time intervals occur before, during and after said systemic lipopolysaccharide exposure.

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pathophysiological reactions are selected from the group including shivering, fever, lethargy, watery eyes, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, intravascular coagulation, leukocyte infiltration, liver damage, inflammation in various organs, and any combination thereof.

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said additional treatment comprises administering a pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin to said animal.

24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18 wherein said pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin reduces neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to underlying tissues.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein said pharmacologically effective dose of curcumin reduces neutrophil infiltration from blood vessels to underlying tissues.